A-67587-1/AJT/MSS (468330-1208)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Comprissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 22, 2003

Signature:

Kari Batemah



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Karabeyoglu, et. al.

Application No.

09/505,516

Filed:

February 17, 2000

For: HIGH REGRESSION RATE HYBRID ROCKET

PROPELLANTS AND METHOD

OF SELECTING

Examiner:

Miller, Edward A.

Art Unit:

3641

Date:

April 22, 2003

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT GROUP 3600

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is hereby submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98 and pursuant to Applicant's continuing duty under 37 CFR 1.56 to bring any information which may be material to patentability of this application to the Examiner's attention.

Applicant makes no representation that a complete search has been conducted by the Applicant, or that there is not possibly more relevant art. Applicant also makes no representation that the information submitted herewith is in fact material.

Applicant wishes to make known to the USPTO a letter Applicant received from David S. Jacobson of Gordon & Jacobson, P.C. dated February 26, 2003 and addressed to Applicant's attorney of record (copy of letter attached). In this letter Mr. Jacobson informs Applicant of U.S. Patent No. 5,715,675 (the '675 Patent), and in particular draws Applicant's attention to col. 18, lines 15-24 of the '675 Patent. Mr. Jacobson does not represent Applicant. Mr. Jacobson appears to have filed a third party Submission of Prior Art statement in the USPTO on February 25, 2003 (copy attached). The '675 Patent was not known to Applicant until receipt of Mr. Jacobson's letter.

A-67587-1/AJT/MSS (468330-1208)

Applicant lists the '675 Patent on the attached PTO 08A form and provides a copy of the reference attached hereto. The subject application is believed patentable over the '675 Patent. The '675 Patent is directed to a hybrid rocket system with an integrated motor. In particular, the hybrid rocket motor has an oxidant tank communicating with a combustion chamber containing a solid fuel grain. The passage from the oxidant tank to the combustion chamber is obstructed by a fill tube which fills the oxidant tank with oxidant and pressurizes the oxidizer tank, as necessary. After the tank is full and as part of the launch sequence, the fill tube is displaced from the tankchamber passage to deliver oxidant to the grain and initiate the combustion process. (col. 2, lines 42-51).

At col. 18, lines 15-24 of the '675 patent, materials useful as a fuel grain are disclosed. The '675 Patent states that these may include non-polymerized hydrocarbons, for instance, paraffin and solidified kerosene. (col. 18, lines 21-23). Applicant respectfully submits that the '675 Patent does not disclose or suggest any particular composition or method of combusting as claimed in the subject application, and that the subject application is patentable in view of the '675 Patent.

Consideration of the foregoing plus the prompt return of a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column in accordance with MPEP 609 are respectfully requested.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(4); accordingly, no fees are required. However, in the event any fee is deemed necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-2319 (Order No. A-67587-1/AJT/MSS (468330-1208)).

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP

Maria S'. Swiatek Reg. No. 37,244

Date: April 22, 2003

Four Embarcadero Center, Suite 3400 San Francisco, CA 94111-4187

Telephone: 650-494-8700

Facsimile: 650-494-8771

PTO/SB/08A (02-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003, OMB 0651-0031

APR 2 9 2003 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Complete if Known **Application Number** 09/505,516 Filing Date Feb. 17, 2000 First Named Inventor Karabeyoglu et al. Art Unit Examiner Name

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Attorney Docket Number Sheet

			U. S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (f known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		US- 5,715,675	02-10-1998	Smith et al.	Col. 18, lines 15-24		
		US-					
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		FORE	IGN PATENT DOCU	MENTS		
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		Country Code ³ "Number ⁴ "Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \(^1\) Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). \(^2\) See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. \(^3\) Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). \(^4\) For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. \(^3\) Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. \(^6\) Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, uspectively including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patente, Washington, DC 20231. TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



PTO/SB/8A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			Complete if Known									
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Examiner	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee	or Appli	cant	Date	of Publication			Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant	
Initials*		Number Kind Code ² (if known)		of Cited Docume		cument OI Cited Documer			t Passages or Relevant			
	1.			Smith et al.				MM-DD-YYYY 02/10/98		all, in particular col. 18, lines 15-24		
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Unique citation designation number. 2 See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 3 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 4 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.